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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/785,590	02/23/2004	Douglas M. Baney	10030172-1	3186

7590 06/27/2005

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EXAMINER

TO, TUAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3663	

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/785,590	BANEY, DOUGLAS M.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tuan C. To	3663	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 20 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 23 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-3, and 7-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Chujo et al. (US 20010017933A1).

With respect to claim 1, the U.S Patent No. '933A1 to Chujo et al. has been cited as disclosing a traffic communication system, wherein the monitor camera section (1) shown in figure 2 is the claimed traffic control device. As clearly shown in figure2, the monitor camera section 1 comprises: a video camera (11) for determining the traffic data, which certainly includes the first system variable as claimed, a video encoder section (12) for encoding the system variable (data signal recorded from the video camera) as a first signal, and the transmitter section (13) is the transmitting device coupled to the encoder section (12) for transmitting the optical signal recorded from said to the monitoring center (2) (Chujo et al., page 2, paragraph 0025).

With regard to claims 2 and 18, the video camera section (11) records the traffic density (or roadway conditions).

With regard to claim 3, Chujoh et al. disclose that the transmission section (13) transmit optical signal to the monitoring center (2).

With regard to claim 7, as represented herein above, the monitor camera section (1) is the claimed traffic control device that consists of a traffic video camera (11).

With regard to claim 8, Chujoh et al. also disclose a traffic communication unit which is equipped with a motor vehicle (Chujoh et al, figure 1, terminal section (3)), and that the terminal section (3) includes a receiver (31) for receiving a signal from the monitoring center (2) (Chujoh et al, figure 7, receiver 31), a video decoder section (33) for decoding said signal (Chujoh et al., figure 7, video decoder section 33), and a display unit coupled to the decoder section (33) for outputting the traffic data from the control center (2).

With regard to claim 9, Chujoh et al. do not disclose that the receiver section (31) is located on the vehicle at one or more areas selected from the group consisting of a roof, a windshield, a hood, a headlight, a taillight, a bumper, a trunk, a hubcap, a rearview mirror, a side view mirror and a marker light, however, such feature is well known feature because the receiver section (31) with other electronic devices as a whole unit can be placed at one area as listed above for receiving the incoming signal is possible.

With respect to claim 10, as represented herein above, the system disclosed in Chujoh et al. includes the video camera (11) for recording the traffic data as the a system variable, the encoder section (12) is provided for encoding the signal from the

video camera (11), and the transmission section (13) is provided for transmitting the encoded signal from the encoder section (12) (Chujoh et al, figure 2).

With regard to claim 11, Chujoh et al. disclose that the transmitter section (13) is an optical transmitter (Chujoh et al, figure 2; page 2, paragraphs 0025, 0026).

With regard to claim 12, Chujoh et al. also disclose a traffic communication unit which is equipped with a motor vehicle (Chujoh et al, figure 1, terminal section (3)), and that the terminal section (3) includes a receiver (31) for receiving a signal from the monitoring center (2) (Chujoh et al, figure 7, receiver 31), a video decoder section (33) for decoding said signal (Chujoh et al., figure 7, video decoder section 33), and a display unit coupled to the decoder section (33) for outputting the traffic data from the control center (2).

With regard to claim 13, Chujoh et al. also disclose a traffic communication unit which is equipped with a motor vehicle (Chujoh et al, figure 1, terminal section (3)), and that the terminal section (3) includes a receiver (31) for receiving a signal from the monitoring center (2) (Chujoh et al, figure 7, receiver 31), a video decoder section (33) for decoding said signal (Chujoh et al., figure 7, video decoder section 33), and a display unit coupled to the decoder section (33) for outputting the traffic data from the control center (2).

With regard to claim 14, Chujoh et al. disclose that the terminal section (3) equipped with each vehicle shown in figure 1 includes another transmitter (37) for transmitting signal to another traffic communication unit coupled to another vehicle that includes a receiver section (31).

With respect to claim 15, as represented herein above, the system disclosed in Chujoh et al. includes the video camera (11) for recording the traffic data as the a system variable, the encoder section (12) is provided for encoding the signal from the video camera (11), and the transmission section (13) is provided for transmitting the encoded signal from the encoder section (12) (Chujoh et al, figure 2).

With regard to claim 16, Chujoh et al. disclose that the transmission section (13) transmit the optical signal to the monitoring center (2).

With regard to claim 17, the transmitter (13) as mentioned herein above is provided for modulating the pulse signal from the encoder (12).

With respect to claim 19, as represented herein above, the system disclosed in Chujoh et al. includes the video camera (11) for recording the traffic data as the a system variable, the encoder section (12) is provided for encoding the signal from the video camera (11), and the transmission section (13) is provided for transmitting the encoded signal from the encoder section (12) (Chujoh et al, figure 2) to a communication unit.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chujo et al. (US 20010017933A1) and in view of Garnache et al. (US 20040165641A1).

With regard to claim 4, Chujo et al. address the limitations of claim 1 except for the following: "said transmitter comprise a light emitting diode or a vertical cavity surface emitting laser".

The reference to Garnache et al. has been provided to overcome the missing feature from Chujo et al. by teaching that optical transmitter (see Garnache et al, abstract) comprises a vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VECSEL) (see Garnache et al, page 5, paragraphs 0051 and 0056).

Hence it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Chujo et al. to include the optical transmitter as taught in Garnache et al. so that driver on the street is capable to predict generally the traffic condition on a next route that the driver intend to travel to.

With regard to claim 5, Garnache et al. disclose that the optical transmitter includes the vertical cavity surface emitting laser that having focusing intra cavity lens (see Garnache et al, page 5, paragraph 0056).

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chujo et al. (US 20010017933A1) and in view of Kuhara et al. (US 20040022540A1).

The primary reference to Chujoh et al., as represented above, discloses the limitations of claim 1 except for the teaching of "transmitter further comprises a diffraction grating, for diffusing an optical output".

The reference to Kuhara et al. disclose an optical transmitter having a plurality of diffraction gratings (Kuhara et al, abstract) for diffusing optical outputs.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Chujoh et al. to include the teachings as taught in Kuhara et al in order to produce optical spectra by diffraction of reflected or transmitted light.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 20 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3663

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/tc

June 22, 2005



JACK KEITH
PRIMARY EXAMINER
SPE 3663